

The China Mail.

Established February, 1845.

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HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1881.

日七初月正年己辛

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALGAR, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E.C. GEORGE STREET & CO., 80, Cornhill. GORDON & GOTCH, Ludgate Circus, E.C. BATES HENDY & CO., 4, Old Jewry, E.C. SAMUEL DEACON & CO., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE.—LEON DE ROSY, 19, Rue Monsieur, Paris.

NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 123, Nassau Street.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GOTCH, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO AND AMERICAN PORTS generally.—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAYLE & CO., Square, Singapore. C. HEINZEL & CO., Manila.

CHINA.—MESSRS. A. A. DE MELLO & CO., SINGAPORE. CAMPBELL & CO., AMY, WILSON, NICHOLAS & CO., FOSHOW, HEDGE & CO., SHANGHAI. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., AND KELLY & WAIHAN, YOKOHAMA, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Banks.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, 5,000,000 Dollars. RESERVE FUND, 1,600,000 Dollars.

COUNCIL OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman, Hon. W. KESWICK. Deputy Chairman, A. MOYER, Esq.

A. D. BELLING, Esq. H. DE C. FORBES, Esq. R. B. BELLING, Esq. H. HOPKINS, Esq. H. L. DAILEY, Esq. F. D. SASOON, Esq. E. S. YOUNG, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER, HONGKONG. THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGER, SHANGHAI. EWEN CARMEN, Esq. LONDON BANKERS.—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG. INTEREST ALLOWED.

ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits.—For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum. 6 " 4 per cent. 12 " 5 per cent. "

LOCAL BANKS DISCUSSED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts, granted in London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation, No. 1, Queen's Road East. HONGKONG, August 10, 1880.

COMPTOIR DES COMPTES DE PARIS. (Incorporated 7th & 18th March, 1848.)

RECOGNISED by the INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION of 30th April, 1862.

CAPITAL FULLY PAID-UP, £3,200,000. RESERVE FUND, £300,000.

HEAD OFFICE—14, Rue Berger, PARIS.

AGENCIES and BRANCHES at: LONDON, BOURBON, SAN FRANCISCO, MARSEILLE, BOMBAY, HONGKONG, LYON, CALCUTTA, BANGKOK, NANTES, SHANGHAI, FOSHOW, MELBOURNE.

LONDON BANKERS: THE BANK OF ENGLAND. THE UNION BANK OF LONDON.

The Hongkong Agency receives Fixed Deposits on Terms to be ascertained on application, grants Drafts and Credits on all parts of the World, and transacts every description of Banking Exchange Business.

E. G. VOUILLEMONT, Manager, Shanghai.

Hongkong, May 20, 1879.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION. (Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

PAID-UP CAPITAL, £1,500,000.

RATES OF INTEREST ALLOWED ON POSTS.

At 3 months notice 3% per annum. 6 " 4% " 12 " 5% "

Current Accounts kept on Terms which may be learnt on application.

GEO. O. SCOTT, Acting Manager.

Oriental Bank Corporation, HONGKONG, September 4, 1879.

THE CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED.)

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the ORIGINAL SCRIP CERTIFICATES No. 2003 & 2004, numbered 241, 311 and 329 in the above Company, standing in the name of REUBEN SOLOMON, having been lost, the said Original Scrip Certificate has been CANCELLED and a Duplicate issued to the Holder of the said Certificate. No transaction taking place under the authority of the said Original Scrip Certificate No. 2003 will hereafter be recognized by the Undersigned.

By Order,

J. BRADLEE SMITH, Secretary.

Hongkong, January 21, 1881. feb20

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.—
M. R. EDWARD ALBERT SASOON and Mr. AARON MOSES GUBBAY have been admitted PARTNERS in our Firm in INDIA, CHINA and ENGLAND, from this date.

DAVID SASOON & CO.,
Bombay, February 1, 1881. feb9

NOTICE.

M. R. ERNST LUDWIG REUTER has been admitted a PARTNER in our Firm.

PUSTAU & CO.,
Hongkong and Canton, February 1, 1881. mrl

NOTICE.

THE CO-PARTNERSHIP of SHARP AND DANBY having been DISSOLVED by mutual consent, it is requested that all Sums Due and all Claims be sent in to Mr. Sharp for Liquidation of the firm before the 28th day of FEBRUARY instant.

Mr. DANBY will carry on the business of Architect, Surveyor, and Civil Engineer, under his own name.

Mr. SHARP will continue his Land and Estate Agency, under his former style of Sharp & Co., at the Office hitherto occupied by Sharp and Danby, No. 13, Queen's Road, opposite the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China.

GRANVILLE SHARP.
WILLIAM DANBY.
Hongkong, February 1, 1881. mrl

NOTICE.

M. R. NICOLAUS AUGUST SIEBS has this day been admitted a PARTNER in our Firm at Hongkong and in China, and M. ALEXANDER WASSERFALL has been authorized to SIGN the Firm pro Procurator.

SIEMSEN & CO.,
Hongkong, January 1, 1881. ap3

NOTICE.

M. R. WILLIAM WALKINSHAW has RETIRED from our Firm, and his INTEREST and RESPONSIBILITY have CEASED.

The Business will be carried on as heretofore by the remaining Partners, viz.—MESSRS. PHINIAS RYER, EDWARD CARRY SMITH, and ARTHUR WELLSLEY WALKINSHAW.

TURNER & CO.,
Hongkong, January 1, 1881.

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Undersigned has this day commenced Business at Hongkong as COAL MERCHANTS and COMMISSION AGENTS.

AH. YON & CO.,
F59, Praya Central.
Dated the 3rd day of January, 1881.

To Let.

HONGKONG WHARF & GODOWNS.

GOODS RECEIVED on STORAGE at Moderate Rates, in FIRST-CLASS GODOWNS, under European supervision; and VESSELS Discharged alongside the Wharf, on favourable Terms, with quick despatch. Also entire GODOWNS to let.

MEYER & CO.,
Hongkong, February 1, 1881. mrl

To Let.

FIRST FLOOR and GROUND FLOOR of House No. 4, Praya East (known as the Blue Houses); Possession on the 1st of October.

Also.—The HOUSE opposite the WANCHI Pier; Marine Lot No. 29, containing 8 Rooms, etc., etc., with Gas and Water laid on; Immediate possession.

Apply to MEYER & CO.,
Hongkong, September 2, 1880.

To Let.

THE DWELLING HOUSE—No. 31, WELLINGTON STREET.

ROOMS or CLUB CHAMBERS, suitable for Offices or Chambers.

The DWELLING HOUSE, No. 46, PEAK STREET, below CAINE ROAD; possession from 1st February next.

The BUNGALOW, No. 2, SHELL STREET.

Apply to DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO.,
Hongkong, February 2, 1880.

To Let.

N. O. S. PEDDALE'S HILL.

DAVID SASOON, SONS & CO.,
Hongkong, February 1, 1881.

To Let.

PLAYA EAST AND WANGAI ROAD.

For Particulars, apply to SIEMSEN & CO.,
Hongkong, January 21, 1881.

To BE LET.

A Large 4-Roomed HOUSE, Furnished or Unfurnished, in the best neighbourhood.

Apply to "BIRMOR," CHINA MAIL OFFICE, Hongkong, January 28, 1881.

TO LET.—With Entry from 1st March, next—the PREMISES NO. 37, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, at present occupied by the Occidental and Oriental S.H. CO.

Apply to TURNER & CO.,
Hongkong, December 24, 1880.

NOTICE.

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By Order,

J. BRADLEE SMITH,
Secretary.

Hongkong, January 21, 1881. feb20

For Sale.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

HAVE RECEIVED FIX. "GLEN EARL," "GLEN IFYER," &c.

WHITEAKER'S ALMANACKS.

NOVELS and PICTURE BOOKS.

CABINET PHOTOGRAPHS, PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUMS.

MEERSCHAUM and BRIAR PIPES.

CIGAR and CIGARETTE-HOLDERS.

"AUTOMATON PATENT" UMBRELLAS.

THE LATEST SHAPES in DRAB and BLACK FELT HATS.

FANCY SCARVES and TIES.

WHITE and COLOURED KID GLOVES.

COLOURED SKIN MATS.

RUG STRAPS.

COURIER BAGS, PORTMANTEAUX and VALISES.

DRESSING BAGS and CASES.

TENNIS BATS, PRESSES and BALLS, &c., &c., &c.

Hongkong, February 2, 1881.

KELLY & WALSH

HAVE JUST RECEIVED WHITAKER'S ALMANACKS for 1881.

REVISED ENGLISH BIBLES.

New Relief Atlas of World.

Humbert's "Manners and Customs of Japanese."

Allen's "Engineer's Guide."

"Drawing and Rough Sketching for Marine Engineers."

Mrs. Pitman's "Heroines of the Mission Field."

Caldecott's "New Toy Books."

Board of Trade Instructions to Surveyors of Ships.

Routledge's "History of Science."

Smile's "New Work 'Duty."

Vizetelly's "Facts about Sherry, Port, Champagne, &c."

Postage Stamp Albums.

Pack's "Rare Postage Stamps."

Edkins' "Chinese Buddhism."

Ross's "The Manchus or the Reining Dynasties of China."

Hongkong, January 25, 1881.

MESSRS. SAYLE & CO.

BEG to inform their Customers and the Public that they intend MOVING their STOCK on or about the 1st of MARCH Next to the TEMPORARY PREMISES known as CHOOY'S STORE,

Intimations.

THIS HAIR WASH has been prepared by us for the last 20 years. Its sale is steadily increasing in India, the Straits and Japan. It possesses all the qualities of a Hair Oil or Pomade without their stickiness. It induces a healthy action of the scalp and nourishes the Hair. Damage never appears whilst it is in use. It contains none but the best ingredients, and the greatest care is taken in the compounding. When the Hair falls off after fever or any other sickness, this Wash will surely prove of the greatest value.



THE LAOU-TI-KEE HAIR WASH
An unique and elegant appendage to the Toilet, combining in itself the properties of a Hair Grease, Wash, and Restorer.
PREPARED ONLY BY
J. LLEWELLYN & CO.,
Chemists, &c.,
SHANGHAI.

DIRECTIONS.
A small portion to be poured upon the Head, and to be rubbed into the roots of the Hair. No Pomade required.

From its great nourishing power on the follicles it may in time cause Hair to return to its natural color; it, however, does not contain a particle of any dyeing ingredient. Using it constantly will most certainly prevent the Hair falling. It is open to use, the smallest quantity suffices. It has no sediment, and the roots require no shaking.

J. LLEWELLYN & CO.,
Shanghai.
Hongkong Agents: LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Entertainment.

V. R.
GARRISON THEATRE.
BY KIND PERMISSION
OF
Major-General E. W. DONOVAN, Colonel
L. F. HALL, Major ROKE, and
Officers Royal Artillery.
THE ROYAL ARTILLERY
DRAMATIC CLUB
will give
A PERFORMANCE
ON
MONDAY EVENING,
7th February, 1881,
FOR THE BENEFIT OF A WIDOW OF THE
Corps.

The Performance will commence each Evening with the ORIGINAL DRAMA, in Three Acts, entitled
"NEXT OF KIN."
Characters.

Mr. Mountjoy, A. CHAMPION,
Mr. Grubton, a Lawyer, E. G. REYNOLDS,
Mr. Facile, a Lawyer, W. LOCKE,
Timothy Clump, alias
Theodore Villiers, Esq. J. DADE,
Sam, a Footman, F. FULLINGHAM,
Buttons, a Page, A. J. SEARLE,
Hafiz, a Hindoo, M. TAYLOR,
Miss Clara Mountjoy, Mrs. G. J. LAURIE,
Mrs. Clump, a Laundry, J. SMITH.

An Interval of Ten Minutes.

Mrs. BERNARD and Mr. LESLIE
of the AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB
have kindly consented to give
"A Scene from the Hunchback"
as an INTERLUDE.

An Interval of Five Minutes.

To conclude each Evening with the ORIGINAL DRAMA, and ENTERTAINING FARCE, entitled
"Two Heads are Better than One,"
Mr. STRANGE, a SUTOR,
and Mr. DADDE, a Gentleman, J. DADE,
C. J. LARKE, a Lawyer, A. CHAMPION,
Mr. MAXWELL, an old
Gentleman of fortune, G. J. LAURIE,
Sammy Maxwell, his
Son, an artless youth, E. G. REYNOLDS,
Ellen Strange, his Niece, Mrs. B. DAYES.

PRICES OF ADMISSION:

Reserved Seats, \$2.00.
Second Seats, \$1.00.
Third Seats, \$0.50.

Tickets can be obtained at the Officers' Mess, Sergeants' Messes, Canteen Sergeants R.A. and 27th Innings, all Pay Sergeants, and at the Door on Nights of Performance.

Doors open at 8.30 p.m.
To Commence at 9.00.

Punkahs will be kept in motion during the Performance.

"GOD SAVE THE QUEEN."

Hongkong, February 6, 1881.

HONGKONG CHORAL SOCIETY.

THE Members of the above SOCIETY will
Perform SULLIVAN'S OPERETTA,
H.M.S. "PINAFORE,"

WEDNESDAY,

February 6th.

Performance to commence at 9 p.m.
ENTERTAINMENT.

Tickets (Price 20) can be obtained at
Messrs LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., on and
after Monday, the 7th February, at noon.
Hongkong, February 2, 1881.

To-day's Advertisements.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS
THE KAISER-I-HIND GOLD
MINING COMPANY,
LIMITED.

Incorporated under the Indian Companies
Act X. of 1860.

CAPITAL, Rs. 12,000,000,
(With Power to Increase)

In 48,000 SHARES of Rs. 25 EACH,
of which 33,000 are now offered to the
Public.

Rs. 5 PAYABLE ON APPLICATION; Rs. 10
PAYABLE ON ALLOTMENT.

Balance as required of the
Directors.

Directors.

Sir THOMAS RAIFER THOMPSON, Bart.
NANADHOBY BYRAMZEE JEELDEE, Esq.

Major CHARLES H. STRUTT, R.A. (Retired
Lieut.)

C. B. LYNCH, Esq. (of Messrs. Craigie,
Lynch, and Owen).

FRANCIS DUNSHAW PETT, Esq. (of
Messrs. C. and F. Dunshaw, Director of
the Mysore Spinning and Manufacturing
Co., Limited).

CHARLES H. B. FORBES, Esq. (of Messrs.
C. H. B. Forbes & Co.), Director of the
Rajah Gold Mining Company Limited.

(With power to add to their number)

Secretary of Treasurers.

Messrs. C. H. B. FORBES & CO.,
Madras Agents.

Messrs. ARTHURNOT & CO.,
Solicitors.

Messrs. CRAIGIE, LYNCH, and OWEN,
Consulting Engineers in Bombay.

A. W. FORDE, Esq., M.I.C.E.

Bankers.

CHARTERED MERCHANTABLE BANK OF INDIA,
LONDON & CHINA.

PROSPECTUS.

THE "KAISER-I-HIND GOLD MINING COMPANY, Limited," is formed for the purpose of acquiring and carrying on mining rights situated in the most celebrated Colar District of Mysore, and also for the purpose of carrying on the usual operations of Gold-Mining in India, more especially by means of crushing and utilizing the quartz and extracting Gold and other minerals therefrom.

The mining rights to be immediately acquired by the Company extend over a block of land containing about one square mile.

A special report on this block has been obtained from Mr. John Harris, Mining Engineer; and it will be seen that this report, which is annexed, is of a very encouraging nature. It shows that the property is situated about 40 miles east of Bangalore on the Mysore Plateau, and within 8 miles of the Colar Road station, that a good road is in course of construction to within a short distance of the Company's land to which it can easily be extended in a short time and at a moderate cost. The many special advantages of the Colar Gold Fields include an abundant supply of cheap labour, and the proximity of a direct Railway to the coast. Timber and fuel can be obtained to an unlimited extent at moderate prices, and there is an ample supply of water for milling purposes. A further and important point is that the Title is declared by the vendors to be unexceptionable. The Mining rights will be acquired by the Company direct from the Colar Concessionaires who derive them from the Mysore Government. These Mining rights will be absolutely secured to the Company for the unexpired period of a term of 30 years (less ten days), subject to the payment of a small land tax and a royalty on the net proceeds of the Gold. This royalty, which will never exceed 5 per cent. on the value of the Gold raised, will only be charged by the Mysore Government in the event of the British Government deciding to impose a similar tax in British territory. At present the British Government do not make any such charge, nor is it likely they will do so for some time to come.

The purchase-money is seven-and-a-half lakhs, half to be paid in cash and half in shares, and it is believed that the remaining capital of the Company, viz., four-and-a-half lakhs, will be ample for the successful working of the property. The vendors are willing to satisfy out of the said purchase-money the claims of Messrs. C. H. B. Forbes & Co. and Messrs. Arthurnot & Co., for their services in negotiating the Company and negotiating the sale.

The various Mining Engineers, who have visited the Colar Gold Fields, have without any exception reported on them most favourably, as likely to yield a very profitable return on any reasonable amount of capital invested. It will be seen from Mr. Harris's Report, that there is every reason to believe that the land to be acquired by this Company is of Great Mineral value, and that it is fully equal to any of the adjacent blocks recently taken up by the Mysore, Madras, and other Companies;—That the purchase-money is moderate is best proved by the fact that only last month the Madras Company received and accepted an offer of \$60,000 for half a mile of their land (which is adjacent to the block to be acquired by this Company), having previously sold the other half mile for \$50,000, while the block of land containing the Oregun Mine consisting of only two-fifths of a square mile has recently been sold in London for \$70,000. The Madras Company should therefore derive a good deal of profit by so doing at a handsome profit. The high premium at which the Mysore Company's shares have been recently quoted, affords a further proof of the favourable view taken by English investors with regard to the future of Gold Mining in Mysore. That Gold can be extracted from quartz in paying quantities in the Mysore Gold Fields is now an established fact. The Oregun Gold Mining Company, Limited (see Plan attached to Mr. Harris's Report), have just completed the execution of their machinery, and a crushing of 44 tons of quartz produced 400 ounces of Gold. Such an output cannot fail to result in the payment of dividends that should satisfy the most sanguine expectations.

It is of course evident, as regards the present, and all other Mining undertakings in Southern India, that the extent of their success cannot be gauged until proved by the actual result of operations; but the statement above made in para. 5 regarding the experience of the Oregun Gold Mining Company, Limited, rests upon authority believed to be unimpeachable.

Messrs. Arthurnot & Co. have consented to act as Agents to the Company.

and have a full and complete understanding with Colar Gold Fields, effects the best possible arrangement.

the best interests of the Company will be most carefully looked after.

Early application for shares on the accompanying form together with remittance

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the best interests of the Company will be most carefully looked after.

Early application for shares on the accompanying form together with remittance

To-day's Advertisements.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
Established A.D. 1841.

香港大藥房

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
FAMILY & DISPENSING CHEMISTS,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,
IMPORTERS

OF
DRUGGISTS' SUPPLIES, NURSERY REQUISITES,
TOILET REQUISITES, ENGLISH,
AMERICAN, AND FRENCH PATENT
MEDICINES.

MANUFACTURERS

OF
Soda Water, Lemonade, Tonic Water,
Gingerade, Potass Water, Sarsaparilla
Water, and other Aerated Waters.

NOTICE is hereby given, that an Extra-
ORDINARY MEETING of SHARE-
HOLDERS will be held at the REGISTERED
OFFICE of the above-named Company, No.
14, Praya Central, Victoria, Hongkong,
on TUESDAY, the 22

cares for us know no limits. You, dear parents and respected friends, whose only pride is to see your beloved children progressing in their studies and in that wisdom which alone will make us useful members of society, and worthy to transmit to a future generation, together with your name, the example of all virtues.

"We have invited you, I say, not to exhibit ourselves as models of eloquence but merely to witness our joy in receiving the prizes presented to us by generous donors. Long and hard have we laboured under the guidance of our good teachers to acquire a store of knowledge that shall fit us for usefulness in after life.

"We feel that our privileges have been great, and, if we have made no improvement, we shall be obliged to confess that we have been negligent of our duties, and indifferent to the instructions of our beloved professors, for we are sure that every reasonable effort has been made to advance us in the path of virtue and knowledge.

"But we humbly trust, our time and our advantages have not been wholly misimproved, and that we shall on this occasion furnish some evidence to show that we have accomplished something.

After the above address had been read and the Governor had bowed his acknowledgement, various lively selections were played.

Biagio Raimondi then said: That it was with the most sincere feeling of gratitude that he rose to thank His Excellency for his great kindness in coming here to-day to preside at the distribution of prizes. The result of the examination had already been communicated to His Excellency by Dr Eitel, the Government Inspector of Schools, who with Mr May, of the Central School, had examined the pupils of this Institution. The result had been satisfactory and he had been glad to remark a notable improvement in composition. The boys who passed the 6th Standard last year were preparing for the scholarship this year, but as it was found that it was not yet ready to be given, they had not been examined. They were glad to see boys continuing at school after they had passed all the Standards. The class of the grant-in-aid regulations as to the two hundred attendances was still a great drawback. They had to thank Dr Eitel that he permitted some boys who had not put in their two hundred attendances to be examined outside. Of course they could not come under this for the grant-in-aid but it was satisfactory to the boys and their parents that they should pass their examination before the Inspector of Schools. Bad weather or illness, or any other cause might prevent the boys from giving two hundred attendances during the preceding year, but it was hard that that should prevent them from being examined. The Catholic Community in this Colony was not made up of wealthy people and pouring rains prevailed for some months. As to several of the boys who came to this school he might tell those present that they not only had not cloths to shelter them from the weather, but they had no shoes to put on their feet. It might shock the British feelings of those whom he was addressing, but that was so and he had established and was now conducting in Bridge Street a school into which only those boys could be admitted who had no shoes to wear. He had seen these boys, and knew they were not coming to school, and so asked them for a reason, and they said it was because they had no shoes, no clothes. He then took the matter up. His Excellency the Governor gave \$100, and no less than three of the Sisters of Charity volunteered to teach these little boys and girls. That school was being general under the title of the Barefooted School, on the School of the Capuchins, an order in the Church, the members of which were barefooted. There were now 45 boys in attendance at that school. Another point to which he should like to say a few words was the fact that it was a very great jump from the fourth to the fifth standard. For instance, Book-keeping was not admitted even as an extra in the highest standard, although it was so necessary in such a life as it was probable most of these boys would enter upon. Algebra and Geometry were of little practical use to boys such as this school sent out into the world. Everybody knew that the people of the East were. Much of the knowledge of science which the people had was no doubt owing to the work of missionaries for a hundred years past. But all missionaries and others agreed that it was extremely hard to induce these youths to study anything if they could not show them that some immediate benefit was to be derived from it. His Lordship introduced, as expressing the spirit in which a Chinaman goes to learn anything from a teacher or master, an anecdote about some one who told his teacher that he had taught him everything, save and except the one thing he really desired to learn, and on being asked what it was that had been neglected, said, How to make gold. What his Lordship asked, was the practical use of teaching these boys Algebra and Geometry. He would propose and suggest that while the 6th Standard should be made easier, the 5th should be made stricter and should include measurement, book-keeping, engineering, mechanics, &c. These were branches of instruction which would be of practical use to the boys when they grew up; they would prove them for life. Now they studied only for the sake of learning and knowing. In this matter they had always to apply to H. E. the Governor. He now asked whether the Government could not do something in that matter. This was quite a new sphere and an impetus would be given to the various studies. These were the few simple remarks he had to offer. Education was to him such an interesting subject that whenever it was introduced he had something to say for the improvements which might be carried out to extend it. He thanked those ladies and gentlemen who were present for their kindness in attending at the College that day. It was his duty to be grateful to his benefactors.

The Governor said he agreed in the practical remarks made by the Bishop, and especially in what he had told them as to the necessity of having in this Colony such subjects as are required in the practical life of this Colony, in the mercantile pursuits of which the boys will have to be engaged when they leave school, as well as in the various departments of the Government Service. In various mercantile and governmental pursuits of life were measurement and such subjects as the Bishop had mentioned, very largely required. He also agreed and observed that those whom he was addressing agreed as well in what the Bishop had said with regard to the ragged children who go about naked fest in this Colony. He observed, when his Lordship was describing his school, that his masters did not spindles, but their countenance showed how really they spindles, and combed with him, and he a remarkable coincidence the school came from the prize on the table. His Excellency alluded here to an incident of rather an amusing nature, which we should have done something before. When the Bishop was in the middle of his speech and had just said a word of what he had done with regard to the ragged children, an alarm bell which was one of the prizes, and was on the table before him, "went off," to the amazement of his Lordship and the amusement of his auditor. His

Lordship, His Excellency continued, was to be congratulated, and the teachers of the school were to be congratulated on the marked improvement in English composition in this school as compared with last year. He (the Governor) took the liberty last year of finding a little fault and giving a little advice; but having this year seen Dr Eitel's report, he had no fault to find and had nothing to do but to congratulate the Director. His attention had been directed to the difficulty of securing two hundred attendances in a school of this kind. Within the last few days he had received a letter from the Bishop of Victoria in which his Lordship drew attention to the fact that in this Colony it was great difficulty in getting children to attend to put in the large number of attendances required by the grant-in-aid regulations. He hoped to be able to make some revised regulations with regard to this matter as would satisfy the Bishop of Victoria and his Lordship who was here.

The results of the examination of this school were as follows: of 235 on the roll 136 were examined; of the difference between these two numbers 69 were examined because they had not two hundred attendances to their credit. Of the 166 presented 160 passed and 16 failed; in other words 90 per cent of those presented passed. It was now his pleasure duly to distribute the prizes on the table. He had only one more word to say. About three years ago speaking it must have been at St. Joseph's College he said that he was in favour of giving all public appointments by open competition. That was a system established in England which had worked well in Great Britain and Ireland. He then stated to what he was willing to consider rare and exceptional facts as to good conduct, general capacity, application and ability shown at school by any boy in this Colony, and he might then be able to give away an appointment without an open examination, it taking as it were the school examination instead. He had just given the best he could give to a young gentleman in to whom he had before given the first prize at school. This young gentleman, he said, was a late lamented friend of his own who had gained this prize had secured a Government appointment mainly through his knowledge of English, his good conduct, and the result of his examinations at school. He referred to Mr Louis Almada, who was about to be appointed to a clerkship in the Colonial Secretary's office. A. Silve, 1st for Good Conduct, a book, "Primary Geography," presented by the Bishop.

A. Daneberg, 2nd for Good Conduct, a silver pencil case, presented by Mr Bellioli.

A. Pereira, 1st for Memory Lessons, a book, "Boy's Birthday Book," presented by a friend.

A. Sequeira, 2nd for Spelling, a book, "Nuttall's Dictionary," presented by Mr. H. Stars.

C. Hyndman, 1st for General Improvement, a gold pencil case, presented by Mr. Bellioli.

E. Robart, 2nd for General Improvement, a gold pencil case, presented by Mr. Bellioli.

J. Colman, 1st for Application, a gold pencil case, presented by Mr. Bellioli.

J. Braga, 2nd for Application, a book, "The Triumphs of Steam," presented by the Brothers.

A. Silve, 1st for Good Conduct, a book, "Primary Geography," presented by Mr. Bellioli.

Wong Wing-kwong, for English, a book, "Chinese and English Dictionary," presented by Mr. Bellioli.

A. Pereira, 1st for Memory Lessons, a book, "Boy's Birthday Book," presented by a friend.

A. Sequeira, 2nd for Spelling, a book, "Nuttall's Dictionary," presented by Mr. H. Stars.

C. Hyndman, 1st for Writing, a silver medal, presented by His Lordship the Bishop.

G. Gutierrez, 2nd for Writing, a fancy inkstand, presented by Chev. Musso.

A. Pereira, 1st for Memory Lessons, a book, "Boy's Birthday Book," presented by a friend.

A. Silve, 1st for Memory Lessons, a fancy inkstand, presented by Chev. Musso.

J. Vieira, 1st for Writing, a silver medal, presented by His Lordship the Bishop.

G. Gutierrez, 2nd for Writing, a fancy inkstand, presented by Chev. Musso.

A. Pereira, 1st for Memory Lessons, a book, "Boy's Birthday Book," presented by a friend.

A. Silve, 1st for Good Conduct, a book, "Primary Geography," presented by Mr. Bellioli.

J. Braga, 2nd for Good Conduct, a book, "Primary Geography," presented by Mr. Bellioli.

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J.

A STORY IN VERSE.

Invita, regina, tuo do more cost.—Virg.

Not without thoughts that aches with memories
Of foreign seasons and of days and nights
Of other skies I look back, and cannot
Face familiar scenes and faces.

But now growing alien to my travelled eyes—
Accosted so long to foreign sights, I muse
Upon the scenes and faces of a home
Of many a year ago.

I saw her first

When we drove from the railway station where
Her father met me some a long time ago
From my old home, and I entered a house
Before a fire, a spark from and sky.

He said, "This is your home for many a year

To come." Clad in a winter cloak of red

A little girl, she might be ten years old

And more, was standing at the iron gate

Underneath two grey leafless hawthorn trees;

As and our carriage neared, I looked, and
Margaret was laughing merrily.

Six winters passed, my school and college days
Were o'er. The night before I left the house
Where grew two hawthorn by the gate,
Before an open space of green and sky;

We had a merrily, in the house.

Her mother, a woman chaste, "I stick for love

Of the proud grey beauty Rosabelle."

The merry meeting laughed; I looked, alone
Margaret was not laughing merrily.

The carriage stood outside the iron gate
Underneath two grey leafless hawthorn trees;
Before an open space of green and sky;

I stepped out from the carriage, turned and looked,

And Margaret was weeping bitterly.

The autumn came. Again at the old gate
Underneath two grey leafless hawthorn trees

Before an open space of green and sky;

The carriage stood. "Farewell, number me!"

Poor Margaret was weeping bitterly.

Hongkong, January 30, 1881.

CONTRACTORS AND ENGINEERS.

(The Engineer, Dec. 3.)

When any considerable engineering work, such as for example as a bridge, is to be constructed, it is the practice to prepare certain instructions which are known as "The Specification"—and to invite contractors to say for what price they will carry out the work according to the instructions given in the specification. Other things being equal, the contractor who is willing to do the work for the smallest remuneration is usually employed. The system is very simple, and apparently satisfactory, but it is not without defects, and it is very much to be desired that these defects should be eliminated. The specification is always drawn up by an engineer, or some one who is an engineer by repute. Very often the contractor is also an engineer, and if he is not himself a member of the profession, he is, if a prudent man careful to employ some one who has special and competent knowledge of the kind of work to be done. A moment's consideration will show that from the outset there are two contending powers engaged—the one is the engineer who prepared the specification, the other is the contractor. The first wishes the work to be done as well as possible; the second wishes it to be done at the lowest possible price. But low price and good workmanship are incompatible; and it is well known that the life of a contractor may be exceedingly harassing and arduous. Nothing but incessant attention to the work will keep their operations up to the "proper standard"; for example, only those who have tried it can realize how difficult it is to get apprentices laid or wholly untrained men to do good, riveting which will satisfy an engineer.

The engineer who prepares a specification appoints an official known as an "inspector" to see how the contractor carries out his work. The inspector has tolerably large powers in one sense; in another he has no power at all. If he finds that the contractor does not comply with the instructions given him by the specification, he can compel him to suspend his operations until an appeal can be made to the engineer. The engineer pleases he can approve of the action taken by the inspector, or he may side with the contractor. In any case the inspector cannot go an inch beyond the specification and in all cases of doubt he can refer the contractor to the specification. So long as the latter is observed, the inspector can make no objection to any kind with propriety. It may be seen from all this that the specification is a very important document, and whenever disputes arise between the contractor and the engineer they turn on the meaning of the specification, and this is usually and inexplicably confounded with the meaning of the engineer and that of the contractor. Ostensibly a specification and contract are very straightforward, simple documents, concerning which there ought to be no mental confusion whatever. The contractor reads the specification, and is supposed to make himself master of its contents. Having done this, he states in writing what virtually means that he will carry out the instructions for a certain sum of money. With first-class contractors we have nothing at present to do. They comply not only to the letter but in the spirit with the specification. We are now considering the action of men, both contractors and engineers, who do not hold a first rank, and who are nevertheless very pretentious. The second-rate contractor is one who can only be got to work to his specification with great difficulty; and it is always in doubt as to what a specification means—and the construction to be put upon it. For example, let us suppose that a specification has been prepared for a set of ovens, or a dozen Lancashire boilers. In the specification for the first we may find such a clause as this: "All the bricks are to be good hard picked stock." They are to be laid in cement mortar, gauged two of sand to one of cement, and the cement is to be fresh ground and of the best quality." In the boiler specification we find "the workmanship is throughout to be the very best." Now it is extremely unlikely that an honourable contractor would have the least difficulty in knowing what is meant by the passages quoted. But a contractor who is honest, but not honourable, might have very great difficulty. What is "the very best, hard, picked, stock brick?" Surely opinions will differ on this point. What does "fresh ground" mean? Must the cement have been in the mill not more than a week ago, or would it not deserve to be called fresh ground even after the lapse of a year? It competed with other cement which had been in store for three years? If the cement had got a little damp, and had been put through the mill a second time for obvious reasons, could it not be regarded as a fresh ground? And what is meant of the "best quality?" Might not the contractor plead that he found the cement as being of superior excellence; that the maker had assured him of this, and who could know better? In like manner it will be seen that as regards boilers, what is and what is not first-rate workmanship is a question which will be discussed. The workmanship of a boiler must be very strong if it is impossible to get half a dozen experts to agree that it is very good indeed. The engineer who attempts to contend with contractors under such circum-

stances will have a very sorry time of it; and we need hardly say that, no man of experience would think of wording a specification so vaguely. Yet after giving the most minute instructions possible, something might be left which the engineer cannot fit into some loophole will be found through which a dishonest contractor can creep. To avoid the consequences the engineer always introduces a clause to the effect that should any dispute arise between the engineer and the contractor the engineer himself shall be sole arbitrator, and his decision shall be final.

To such a clause contractors as a body object. Yet it is very difficult to see how its presence can be avoided. The only substitute for the engineer in such a case would be some third party or arbitrator; and a little reflection will show that it would be necessary to keep an arbitrator constantly on the works to judge between the engineer and the contractor. He would thus be virtually the engineer; and on him would devolve the responsibility for the due performance of the contract. Such a state of affairs could not be allowed to exist, and we venture to think that there is after all no hardship inflicted upon contractors by the objectionable clause. Let us suppose for a moment that A wants a house or a bridge built, and employs B, to build it. No specification is prepared, but a bargain is made that a bridge shall be built to please A, for a certain sum. Now no man in his right mind will sign a contract under such conditions without fully realizing that it is quite optional with B whether he does or not, keep and pay for the bridge when it is finished. The contractor will arrange accordingly, and he will include the right to reject in the price which he charges for the work. The existence of a specification is the contractor's safeguard; and if he takes care not to sign a specification with which he is not satisfied, he will have no reason to complain of the objectionable clause. In dealing with bidders, for example, let it be stipulated that they shall come from a certain district, weigh a given weight, and absorb a fixed quantity of water and no more. Let it be stipulated that such a vessel shall support a tensile strain of 200 lbs. per square inch, or such other strain may be fixed. The engineer can make no objection to bricks which comply with the conditions, nor can he find fault with cement which satisfies the stipulations he himself made. A little practical experience will soon make contractors aware of the points which must be accurately defined in a specification to avoid trouble; and first-rate contractors dealing with men whom they have not dealt with before will not sign specifications with which they are not satisfied until they are amended. Such a clause men like a vague specification because it gives them a chance of making more money than they could otherwise realize. Unfortunately there is a notion current among contractors that a specification is to be taken only as a guide, and that so long as it is provided, it is roughly adhered to no fault can be found. It is impossible to determine this mischievous theory in too strong terms. It has done more to shake confidence in the honesty of contractors and the value of engineers than anything else. Contractors should remember that when they sign a specification and a contract they pledge themselves to do certain things. There are men, we regret to say, who will do all in their power to pass off bad workmanship and bad materials when working under contract who would not for a moment dream of disowning their acceptance. But a bill is only a promise to do a certain thing—a particular day—and when a man signs a contract, he does nothing less. He promises that he will do a certain thing in a certain way; and to an honourable man one promise is as binding as the other, and in the eyes of the law a contract is just as important as acceptance. By virtue of the latter the acceptor can be made to pay, and by virtue of the former the contractor can be compelled to supply workmanship and materials of the best quality; and the engineer shall be the judge of quality. If only contractors could be got to regard specifications as documents from which they can practically no appeal, they would probably be more careful how they sign them. We have over and over again heard it urged by contractors, that they "had no idea the workmanship was to be so good when they took the contract," and that although they had lied before them a paper, bearing their own signature, stating as plainly as it could be stated, that "the workmanship shall be throughout the best possible."

We have said that it is extremely desirable that some plan should be devised which would tend to put a stop to the constant disputes which are now of daily occurrence between engineers and contractors. It is not, however, by any means easy to see what is to be done. A proportion of the mischief is due to the loose wording of specifications, and much would be gained, we think, if engineers would make it a practice in all cases to submit their specifications to a competent lawyer in the first instance. There are now at the bar numbers of men who possess a great deal of special knowledge of engineer's work, which would enable them at once to see where a clever contractor could prove one or two many for an engineer. Such men could give advice to the engineer, which would prove simply invaluable. Again, a contractor should never sign any specification or contract until he has fully realized what both mean, and if he has the smallest doubt on the subject he should consult his solicitor as to the legal meaning of phrases and conditions and penalties. In one word, we would have him make no specification and contract, not a code of instructions and an agreement alone, but carefully prepared documents. Such documents would, it is to be assumed, be signed by the contractor with his eyes open—and he will know from the first that he must abide by the consequences. It is too much to practice in the present day to look upon a specification as not binding upon a contractor, too much the practice to expect what is known as "favour" from the engineer, and too much the custom to be angry, indignant, and disappointed, when it is found that the engineer is not disposed to regard his instructions as a dead letter. Signing a contract is a very serious thing, not to be done lightly or without consideration. It implies the making of a solemn promise, and the man who is disposed to evade the provisions of his contract can hardly be regarded as an honourable gentleman, although in a certain sense he may be looked upon as an honest man. Furthermore, it is not to be supposed that everyone who fails to comply with the terms of his contract is a rogue. On the contrary, keen competition has induced many men to undertake work at far too low a price. It is, we regret to say, been the practice in too many instances for both engineers and contractors to regard a specification very lightly, and to my idea has got about that after all signing the specification is only a matter of form. This thought has been a great comfort to me, and has enabled them honestly enough to withstand competitors who do not look upon signing the specification as a matter of form.

With the latter, if a determined effort were made to contract and specifications the weight which they truly carry, very much would be gained, and we should have less questioning as to the meaning of specifications which were certainly never meant to be a terror to honest men.

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C A V I T E ,

F O R T I N , and

M E Y S I G

C I G A R S , and

C H E R O C Q U E S .

A l l S p e c i a l l y S e l e c t e d .

E N G L I S H A N D A M E R I C A N

G R O C E R I E S .

F R E S H S U P P L I E S R E C E I V E D B Y E V E R Y

M A I L .

S M Y R N A F I G S .

C R Y S T A L I Z E D C H E R R I E S .

F A I R N ' S F A V O R I T E B I G U S C U S T S .

S T I L T O N C H E E S E .

F R E N C H P L U M E S .

C A L C U T T A B E E F .

H U M P S .

R O U N D S .

B R I S K E T S , and

T O N G U E S .

C a l i f o r n i a R O L L B U T T E R .

A P P L E B U T T E R .

O L A M C H O W D E R .

F I S H C H O W D E R .

S o u c e d P I G ' S T O N G U E S .

P i c k e d L A M B ' S T O N G U E S .

G r u y e r e C H E E S E .

N e w Y o r k C R E A M C H E E S E .

C A V I A R E .

C u r r i e d O Y S T E R S .